

Application No.: 09/855,270
Amendment Dated: February 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of: November 17, 2004

MAT-8128US

Remarks/Arguments:

The pending claims are 1-6, 11-15, and 17-38. Claims 7-10 and 16 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6, 11-15, 17, and 19 have been amended. Claims 20-38 have been added. No new matter is included therein.

Figure 3C has been amended to correct a typographical error. The "yes" and "no" designations for Step 19 have been reversed. These changes are consistent with page 6, lines 13-15 of the specification.

Claims 3 and 13 have been objected to because of certain informalities. Since these claims have been amended, applicants request that these objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6 and 11-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama (U.S. Patent No. 6,166,826). Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part:

an operating unit operable to be coupled to the memory card reader, the modem, and the scanner, the operating unit being operable to select an image from one of the memory card, the communication line, and the scanner. . .

* * * * *

a printing unit for printing the selected image according to an instruction from the operating unit.

Prior to the current amendment, claim 1 recited "an operating unit." Based on that recitation, the Office Action contended that column 14, lines 35-36 of Yokoyama disclosed a control panel of printer 31 that could be considered to be an operating unit. Amended claim 1 now recites, in part, "an operating unit operable to

be coupled to the memory card reader, the modem, and the scanner." Yokoyama's discussion of its control panel at column 14, lines 34-37 states:

the web browser 44 is operated through a control panel of the printer 31, whereby any file stored in the storage unit 37 can be called and printed.

Yokoyama thus discloses that it has only one source of image data. Amended claim 1 provides for three sources of image data. That is, Yokoyama does not disclose that the control panel is "operable to be coupled to the memory card reader, the modem, and the scanner." Accordingly, at least for this reason, amended claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama.

In addition to reciting three sources of image data, amended claim 1 recites that the operating unit is "operable to select an image from one of the memory card, the communication line, and the scanner." There is no disclosure in Yokoyama that the control panel of printer 31 has such a selection capability, especially since the Yokoyama does not have three sources of image data.

The Office Action contends that print control section 33 and print engine 34 of Yokoyama discloses the printing unit recited in amended claim 1. Applicant disagrees. As shown above, amended claim 1 recites, in part

a printing unit for printing the selected image, according to an instruction from said operating unit.

Yokoyama does not disclose this recitation for at least two reasons. First, amended claim 1 recites that the printing unit operates according to an instruction from "said operating unit." Although Yokoyama may have a control panel for its printer, Yokoyama does not have an operating unit (control panel) that operates as discussed above. Accordingly, Yokoyama's printing unit is not connected to "said operating unit" as defined earlier in amended claim 1. Second, amended claim 1 recites that the printing unit is for printing "the selected image." "The selected image" results

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from "the operating unit being operable to select an image from one of the memory card, the communication line, and the scanner." Since Yokoyama's operating unit is not operable to make such a selection, Yokoyama's printing unit cannot print such a selected image.

For all of the above reasons, therefore, amended claim 1 is not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama.

New claims 20, 23 depend from amended claim 1. Claims 2-6, and new claims 21, 22 depend from claim 20. Accordingly, these claims are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama at for the same reasons that amended claim 1 is not subject to the rejection.

Claims 7-10 have been canceled.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite, in part:

an operating unit operable to be coupled to the memory card reader and the receiver, the operating unit being operable to select an image from one of said memory card and said communication line, and

a printing unit for printing the selected image.

The amendments to claim 11 are very similar to the amendments to claim 1. For the reasons discussed above regarding amended claim 1, amended claim 11 is also not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama. Claims 17-19 and new claims 24, 28, 29 depend from amended claim 11. Claims 12-15, 25-27 depend from claim 24. Accordingly, claims 11-15, 17-19, 24-29 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama.

Claim 16 has been canceled.

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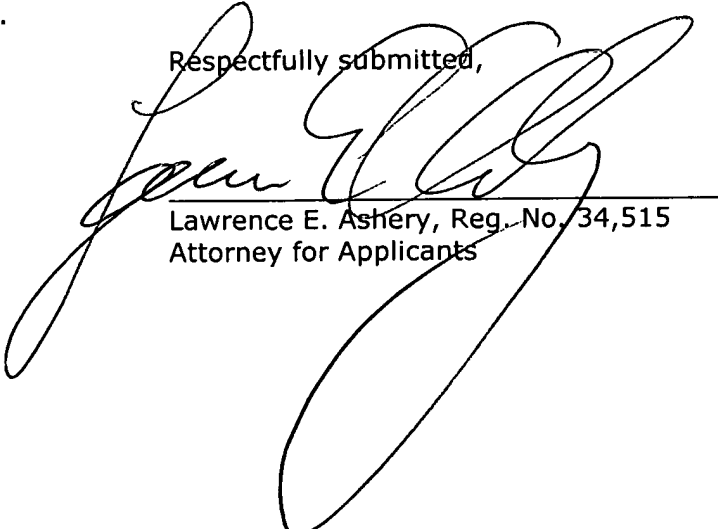
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New claim 30 recites an operation unit that is operable to select either "the communication interface to transmit the image data read from the memory card to the telephone line" or "the printing unit to print the image data read from the memory card." As discussed above, Yokoyama does not disclose these features. Accordingly, new claims 30 and dependent claims 31-32 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama.

New claim 33 recites, in part, "a printing unit operable to print the image data received by the communication interface, the image data captured by the scanner, and the image data read from the memory card." As explained above, Yokoyama discloses that it has only one source of image data. New claim 33 provides for three sources of image data. That is, Yokoyama does not disclose that its printing unit is "operable to print the image data received by the communication interface, the image data captured by the scanner, and the image data read from the memory card." Accordingly, claim 33 and its depend claims 34-38 are not subject to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Yokoyama.

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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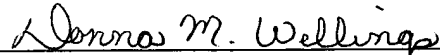
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 3C. This sheet replaces the original sheet.

Attachment